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4 May 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Andropov - A Political Biography

- 1. I found the manuscript of the book on Andropov coming out of the Hoover Institute most interesting.
- 2. Particularly interesting was the second chapter on the discrepancy between the biographic fictions and the biographic facts about Andropov.
- 3. Also worthwhile is the incite into the nature of his early trend which involved getting huge projects done like waterways and lumberjacking which entailed mobilizing large numbers of men, women and children into labor camps or battalions in inaccessible areas to get the job done. There seems to have been little or no formal training or education and not very impressive management or policy experience until he got to the KGB.
- 4. I was particularly fascinated by the degree to which Andropov's movement upwards in the chairs at Moscow seemed to have been guided and influenced by Potalichev.

Educated as

a chemist, he has been a Minister close to twenty years. It is surprising the influence he seemed to have in stimulating and promoting Andropov's career. Potalichev seems to have written his memoirs in 1977 which, together with other sources in Russian, are the main basis for the book.

William J. Casey

Attachment: Manuscript

cc: VC/NIC

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ANDROPOV

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New Challenge to the West

MIKHAIL S. BERNSTAM and ARNOLD BEICHMAN

Introduction by Robert Conquest

STEIN AND DAY/Publishers/New York